on one year data. It has therefore been decided to evaluate its performance for a period of three years.

(b) to (d) The Ministry has received request only from M/s Rasi Seeds Company Ltd. for conducting large scale trials of 4 Bt cotton hybrids developed by the Company. The GEAC has advised the compnay to carry out additional trials and ICAR trials during Kharif 2003.

Funds to States under CADF

3206. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount so far allotted to the States from the Coastal Area Development Fund during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise;

(b) whether Government of West Bengal sought fund assistance from the CADF; and

(c) if so, the reasons for not complying with the demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) to (c) The Government has no fund known as Coastal Area Development Fund. However, for the purpose of conservation and protection of the critical coastal eco-systems and to achieve sustainable development in the coastal areas, the Government has commissioned preparation of Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plans (ICZM) for the following States/Union Territories:

State/Union Territory	Year of commencement	Amount released from Govt. of India/other sources
Kerala	2001	Rs.40,00,000/-
Andaman and Nicobar	2002	Rs.82,77,700/-
Lakshadweep	2002	Rs.75,60,000/-
Karnataka	2003	Rs.90,04,000/-
West Bengal	2003	Rs.30,82,000/-

Further, under the Scheme on Conservation and Management of Mangroves and Coral Reefs, an amount of Rs.14.10 crores was released

during 2000—2003. In addition, an amount of Rs.17.43 crores has been released for Coastal Shelterbelt Plantation during the IX Plan to various Coastal States/Union Territories, including West Bengal.

Sloth bears in the captivity of Kalandars

3207. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are about 1000 sloth bears, an endangered species, throughout the country with 148 in Uttar Pradesh alone in the captivity of Kalandars, who are using them in their shows;

(b) if so, the steps being taken to get them freed;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there is only one Bear Preservation Centre working in Agra; and

(d) if so, what steps are being taken to establish such Centres in other parts of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV):(a) There are reports of Sloth bears in possession of Kalandars across the country. However, systematic nation wide survey has not been done by the Forest Department except in Uttar Pradesh where 91 Kalandars are reported to be in possession of Sloth bears at present.

(b) The concerned Chief Wildlife Warden has been asked to stop performance of bears by Kalandars and take action for their rehabilitation at Bear Rescue Centre, Agra.

(c) Rescue and rehabilitation centres for Sloth bears have been established at Agra (Uttar Pradesh), Bannerghatta (Karnataka) and Itanagar (Arunachal Pradesh).

(d) there is no proposal for establishment of Rescue Centre for rehabilitation of Sloth bears in possession of Kalandars in other parts of the country at present.

Inclusion of tea gardens as forest cover

3208. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :